Insurance fund of Railways

1413. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the corpus of insurance fund of the Railways as on 31st March, 2005;

(b) the amount received in the fund annually during the last three years ending 31st March, 2005 and the amount spent from the fund, annually during the same period;

(c) whether the *ex-gratia* grant given by the Railways to the accident victims is met from the insurance fund or from the general revenues of the Railways; and

(d) the *ex-gratia* grant given to accident victims during the last three years ending 31st March, 2005; year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Railways do not have an Insurance Fund.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The *ex-gratia* grant as well as compensation are met out of Railway Revenue.

(d) The *ex-gratia* grant given to the accident victims during the last three years is as under:

2002-03: Rs. 73.19 lakh
2003-04: Rs. 89.58 lakh
2004-05: Rs. 70.80 lakh.

Prices of coking coal and iron-ore

†1414. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to decrease in the prices of iron-ore and coking coal, the prices of steel have decreased;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.